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JOHN & MARY

" John changes his mind. "

John was on his way to visit Mary for the first time since he had returned from college for the Easter recess. To John it seemed as ages , but actually Mary had come up to school for the Mardi Gras dance just before Lent. After the exchange

of greetings, John sat down. His plans for the evening unfolded with every puff from his collegiate briar . A " show " seemed to be the most attractive offering , but this was soon ruled out, for both John and Mary had pledged "hands off" during the Lenten Season . No other suggestion seemed to be forthcoming; and, finally, in desperation, John exclaimed, " Darn it ! Seems a fellow can't do anything during Lent. "

At this point, on the very precipice of an argument, (for Mary had taken exception in no uncertain terms to John's last statement) Father O'Reilly, the parish priest, stopped in to see Mary's father. Barely setting foot in the living room, he was met by a barbarous outburst from both Mary and John.

" Now cool off, and tell me what this is all about, you two! " Father O'Reilly was heard to say. After a more rational explanation, the kind priest smiled on the two, who were actually perspiring from their heated argument. " No, John, you're wrong, and you know it, " he said. " All the little sacrifices we make during Lent help us to rejoice more fully with our Holy Mother, the Church, when the joyful Easter Season arrives. Furthermore, can't we just mortify ourselves a little when our Lord suffered so much and even died for us. And, besides , we have the satisfaction that we've got enough will-power to say " no " when it becomes a mighty hard word to pronounce. No, John, stick to your resolutions! You'll be happier in the long run. "

Father O'Reilly rose to go. Mary's father was awaiting him in the den. He just smiled as he received the chorus of " thanks " that followed him.

" I guess we don't want to go to a movie, anyhow, " John said. " Come on, Mary, get on your coat, and we'll take a drive. "

Mary joyfully agreed. Deep in her heart she was mighty proud of John.

ANNUNCIATION OF BLESSED VIRGIN

This Sunday marks the beautiful feast of the Annunciation of our blessed Mother. The Church on this day commemorates that startling event which changed the course of world history. When the Angel announced to Mary that she was to be the Mother of Christ, the Messiah, she responded : " Behold the handmaid of the Lord, be it done unto me according to thy word. " With her joyful consent began the drama of the Incarnation, " And the Word (God, Second Person of the Trinity) was made flesh, and dwelt among us. " Through the consent of Mary, Christ came into the world to dwell among us, to reveal the glory of His Father, and to redeem us with His most precious Blood . As Christ, the Son of God , came to us through Mary, is it not becoming that we will return to Christ through Mary His Mother . As St. Alphonsus, Saint Bernard, the Bard of Mary, St. Ephrem, and other saints have written and preached, devotion to Mary is our guarantee and pledge to eternal life. Honor this joyful anniversary, then, with your devout attendance at Mass, and reception of Holy Communion.

THE STATIONS OF THE CROSS FRIDAY EVENINGS , 6:30 -CONFESSIONS DAILY DURING 6:45 STUDENT MASS and on EACH THURSDAY AND SATURDAY EVENING at 6:30 --

NEWS DIGEST

MONTREAL-- One hundred and eighty deaf mutes and two hundred kindergarten children were carefully shepherded to safety by the Sisters of Providence when a \$100,000 fire damaged the deaf mute institute here. In addition to the deaf mutes and children, there were 120 nuns at the institute, and of these 30 are deaf mutes.

Cleveland, Ohio--The auditorium of Ursuline Academy of the Sacred Heart in Cleveland was the scene of an unusual ceremony recently when 300 young men and women paused in their dancing to pay tribute to the Blessed Virgin and to sing a hymn in her honor as Margaret Ann Dempsey, prefect of the Sodality which sponsored the affair, fastened a rose corsage on a statue of Our Blessed Mother. Purpose of the ceremony was to make sodalists conscious of the watchful care of the Blessed Mother and to remind them that every act, whether of work or of play, should be done in a way pleasing to God. The practice, inaugurated a few years ago, has the approval of Rev. J. Roger Lyons, S.J., associate national director of sodalities.

TUCSON, ARIZ.-- Vigorous opposition to the 90-day divorce bill which has just been passed by the Senate is expressed by the Most. Rev. Daniel J. Gercke, Bishop of Tucson, in a statement.

Commenting on the passage of the bill by the upper house of the state legislature, Bishop Gercke declares that nothing the legislators could do "designed to ruin the reputation of the beautiful State of Arizona" would be more effective than the passage of the measure reducing the time of residence for divorce in this State to 90 days.

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